

STORY **CATALINA MARGULIS**
PHOTOGRAPHY **JASON HARTOG**

YORKVILLE

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A YORKVILLE CONDOMINIUM GETS THE STAR TREATMENT.

Every fall, the stars descend on the city for the Toronto International Film Festival. While much of the action takes place at the TIFF Bell Lightbox on King Street West, film fans know they're sure to get their share of celeb sightings in the city's treasured Yorkville neighbourhood, which is also home to what's known as the Mink Mile, with its high-end shops offering the biggest names in fashion.

The buzzy location is a big part of the appeal for condo dwellers who move there, and this Yorkville gem is no exception. Located right in the heart of Yorkville, on Hazelton Avenue, the building is close to the Hazelton Hotel, Toronto's first five-star hotel. Surrounded by classic Victorian homes, the recently built seven-storey condo retains the old facade of its Catholic school lineage. Inside, its minimalist and modern choices abound.

Gautier, a high-end furniture store in Toronto that hails from France, was brought in to furnish the empty condo. "Gautier is a family company. It originally started in 1960 as a children's furniture manufacturer, and expanded in the 70s and 80s. We still manufacture everything in house in France," says **Sylvie Dulger**, store manager.

The team, including design consultant **Eden Fonkatz**, dressed up the condo with their stylish insight and Gautier's quality furniture. "The condo was a couple of years old but no one had lived in it before the homeowner, so it was like new; it had never been furnished," explains Sylvie.

The 2,650 sq. ft. condo features a spacious, all-white kitchen, two bedrooms, a library, a dining room, a living room and large terrace. "The kitchen was done and the walls were beige, so we decorated in the

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The monochromatic dining room is broken up with vibrant blue and orange accents.





A VARIETY OF SHAPES AND TEXTURES ADD DIMENSION TO THE COOL PALETTE.

LEFT: Strategically placed furnishings provide uninterrupted sightlines in the open concept kitchen and living room. **BELOW:** A darker paint hue for the fireplace surround and interesting, original artwork create a focal point.

style of the apartment, working with the existing interiors, colours and textures. We tried to keep everything neutral, and played with grey spectrum colours and wall accessories,” says Sylvie.

The neutral palette allows the homeowner’s artwork to take the spotlight. While the colour scheme runs from beige to grey, pops of colour, such as the orange dining room chairs, add vibrancy to the space. For the dining table, the team chose Gautier’s Smart Table, which can fit up to 16 guests. “The table is lacquer treated, and UV and water resistant,” says Sylvie. “What’s great about these tables is, if you’re entertaining and someone spills water and you don’t notice, it will just evaporate and won’t stain the table.”

Gautier’s Edito chairs feature leatherette upholstery. “It’s more

durable and doesn’t stain,” says Sylvie. “It comes in all different colours, so we mixed them to create a funky environment that’s still classic and modern.”

Combination shelves from Gautier’s Preface collection in the dining room provide visual interest as well as storage, while a sideboard from the same collection offers additional serving space. Gautier included two orange bookcases to complement the chairs in the dining room and add more colour to the room. “We used back panels for the shelves here, but the collection has optional panels so you can remove the back panels if you have a beautiful wallpaper and want to have the wall visible,” says Sylvie.

The living room flows effortlessly from the all-white kitchen,

creating a serene, open-concept space. The living room also features one of Gautier’s best-selling sofas. “It’s called Domino – it’s a low, deep sofa; you feel like you’re in a big lounge chair,” she says. “It’s called Domino because you can move pieces and reconfigure the shape of the sofa. You can move the arm rest between the sofa, or switch the L shape to the other side. It not only works with small spaces, but big spaces as well.”

There are also multi-layer black and white nesting tables from Gautier’s Addict

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The home's modern feel includes elements with clean, crisp lines, a simple colour palette and the use of metal and glass.



ABOVE: The large island also serves as a casual dining area. **LEFT:** A contemporary bookshelf provides organization and a place to display treasures. **OPPOSITE, TOP:** The sunlit library is a tranquil space to read or relax. **BOTTOM:** Graphic rugs throughout add interest.



collection, which can be moved around and separated to create different side-table configurations. "It's very light; you can easily pick it up and use it as a side table or move the tables around or stack them one under another," says Sylvie. "It works well because it covers a wide area but you don't have just one large coffee table; it creates a nice ambience."

The library fireplace is flanked by white lacquer bookcases and a glass top coffee table. A Gautier Livea collection sofa and armchair round out the space.

In the master bedroom, a grey scheme is anchored by the Gautier Premium collection king-size bed in a grey suede-like finish. "It's actually handmade in France," says Sylvie. "A few years ago, when the company introduced

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upholstered beds, they created a whole department for stitching these beds. You can choose your upholstery, the colours and fabric, and your bed will come with the signature of the tailor who stitched it for you.”

The second bedroom features a white lacquer piece from Gautier’s Symphonie collection. “It has beautiful, vertical, architectural-shaped panels, recalling a piano, or organ,” says Sylvie. The bed also features floating side tables, contributing to the lyrical feel of the room.

Bedroom closets were finished by **Phi Design Inc.**, who added white lacquer inserts. Sheer curtains, from **Seventh Element Design Group**, add to the airy feel of both bedrooms, with blackout added for extra privacy. Rugs add a layer of interest in the living, dining and library rooms.

A spacious, furnished terrace offers priceless views from the heart of the city. Despite decorating the apartment with the intention to sell or rent, by the end of the project, the homeowner was so smitten with the final design that he is thinking about keeping it for himself, says Sylvie. If he follows the stars, surely there’s no better place to be. **OH**



ABOVE: Modular style makes it easy to create a cosy corner in every space. **RIGHT:** Cool floor-to-ceiling tile and floating cabinetry maintain the modern vibe.



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